

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/031,776

Examiner

Alex P. Rada

Applicant(s)

HARPAZ, YEHOUDA

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5/18/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

In response to the Ex Parte Quayle filed May 18, 2006 in which the applicant amends claim 1, submits a substitute specification and claim 1 is pending in this application.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art does not disclose nor teach according to claim 1 an electronic board comprising of a grid of grid points on a flat surface, an illumination source having two different colors inside or below the surface, which exhibits a behavior which makes it useful for playing various game and in one of the these game the behavior of the board is as follows: the board keeps a record of a fixed number, when a point is pressed, the board checks if a legal move was made, if it is a legal move the board switches the point to the current player's colour, and changes the current player's colour record to the other color, to evaluate if a point is a legal move, the board checks in turn each of the pre-defined set of imaginary straight lines emanating from the point, assigning a value of 0 to each of these line that does not pass through an illuminated point, a value of 1 if the closest illuminated point that the line passes through is illuminated with the current player's color, and -1 if the closest illuminated point is illuminated in the other color, and then compares the sum of the values of all the line to the fixed number, and if the sum is larger or equal to the fixed number the point is a legal move and when no more legal moves, the board declares as winner the colour in which more point are illuminated. The closest prior art Golad discloses a computer gaming device comprising of a grid of grid points on a flat surface, an illumination source having at least two different colors inside or below the surface, when a point is pressed by the player, the CPU informs the player if an incorrect point is pressed.

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When an incorrect point is pressed the player seeks help by the computer by depressing a help button on the board. When the help button is pressed the computer illuminates the different possible correct moves to make. Golad is does not disclose nor teach the evaluation of a legal move by the board checking in turn each of the pre-defined set of imaginary straight lines emanating from the point, assigning a value of 0 to each of these line that does not pass through an illuminated point, a value of 1 if the closest illuminated point that the line passes through is illuminated with the current player's color, and -1 if the closest illuminated point is illuminated in the other color, and then compares the sum of the values of all the line to the fixed number, and if the sum is larger or equal to the fixed number the point is a legal move and when no more legal moves, the board declares as winner the colour in which more point are illuminated.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alex P. Rada whose telephone number is 571-272-4452. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 08:00-16:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hotaling can be reached on 571-272-4437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


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JOHN M. HOTELLING, II
PRIMARY EXAMINER